

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method for clustering a plurality of users in a mobile network, comprising:

assigning each user a specific profile containing data about said user and at least one constraint;

performing a direct data interchange between at least two users as soon as they are in a specified communication zone; and

clustering users within the same communication zone, based on the data and constraints of their profiles.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26,
wherein the communication zone is defined by forming at least one user cluster, each cluster having an initiator user and a plurality of other users.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27,
wherein a user cluster has a size that is equal to or larger than a communication range of an individual user.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27,
wherein for each cluster, the initiator user causes a communication topology to be formed.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29,
wherein the communication topology is formed as a tree or ring structure.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein individual users are connected through a communication path that involves passing a signal through intermediate users, and the communication path is defined to have a maximum number of intermediate users.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein each user is assigned to a single cluster.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein each user decides autonomously to which cluster he belongs.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the user cluster is redefined if a new user not hitherto belonging to the cluster is identified within the particular communication zone and the new user has a profile relevant to the user cluster.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein users with similar profiles are grouped in the same cluster.

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein each user defines his profile and the at least one constraint, and the constraint specifies the type of users to which the user wants to be clustered.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the profiles are exchanged for analysis between users within a cluster.

38. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 37, wherein the profiles are exchanged by exchanging, data user-by-user.

39. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 37, wherein a communication topology is defined for data exchange and the profiles are exchanged according to the communication topology.

40. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26,

wherein users are clustered according to a common characteristic, and each user in the cluster is informed of the common characteristic.

41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the users communicate without the interposition of a central switching entity.

42. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein an initiator user specifies attributes of desirable users, the initiator user is clustered with the desirable users, and the users in the cluster are identified to one another.

43. (Previously Presented) A device for clustering a plurality of users in mobile networks, wherein each user is assigned a specific profile containing profile data and at least one constraint, data exchange taking place directly between at least two users as soon as they are in a specified communication zone in order to find users with profiles of a specified content, taking the constraints into account, in the specified communication zone.

44. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the device has an interface for wireless data transfer.

45. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein data is exchanged directly between two users each case.

46. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the device is a mobile telecommunication terminal, a pocket PC, a portable computer or a means of transportation.

47. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the device has a computing unit configured to compute its own profile or profile group with the profile or profile group of another user.

48. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the device includes a computer program that can be run on a computer.

49. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 48, wherein the computer program is stored on a computer-readable data media.

50. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, with the device including program coding means stored on a machine-readable media.

51. (Previously Presented) A method for clustering a plurality of users in a mobile network, comprising:

specifying attributes of desirable users, the attributes being specified at an initiator mobile terminal in an ad hoc communication network;

searching, by the initiator mobile terminal, for users having the attributes specified by the initiator user by performing a direct data interchange between the initiator mobile terminal and each of a plurality of users in the mobile network;

clustering together users having the attributes specified by the initiator user, to thereby form a user cluster; and

providing the users of the user cluster with information regarding other users within the same cluster.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing a computer program to execute a method for clustering a plurality of users in a mobile network, the method comprising:

assigning each user a specific profile containing data about said user and at least one constraint;

performing a direct data interchange between at least two users as soon as they are in a specified communication zone;

clustering users within the same communication zone, based on the data and constraints of their profiles; and

assigning each user a specific profile containing data about said user and at least one constraint.